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(Rebeckah Everest)

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VIR 201 (10001987)

Handwritten notes and signatures: 7/15/03, 8/29/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Inderpal S. Bhandari, et al.

Application No.: 09/416,414

Group Art Unit: 3624

Filed: October 12, 1999

Examiner: Ella Colbert

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FINDING
HIDDEN PATTERNS IN THE CONTEXT OF
QUERYING APPLICATIONS

MS: Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 12, 2003 (Paper No. 13). Applicants are concurrently submitting (1) a Request for Extension of Time (two-months) and a check for the requisite fee; and (2) a Declaration pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.131 made by the applicants of the referenced application. Please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-28 (Canceled)

Claim 29. (Currently Amended) A method of finding queries having greatest-valued or least-valued results, comprising the steps of:

receiving a user query consisting of at least one computation and an attribute-value list having one or more elements, each element being associated with an attribute having a value assigned by a user or a user process;

determining queries in a plurality of queries having said at least one computation and sharing one or more elements in common with the user query to provide a set of related queries;

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